

## 2. Shoolini University of Biotechnology and Management Sciences, Solan

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The school of biotechnology and applied sciences at the Shoolini University of Biotechnology and Management Sciences admits students to its courses through rolling test conducted by Shoolini University followed by personal interview. In 2012-13, 50 students were admitted to the MSc biotechnology course out of about 119 applications received. The school aspires to be among the top biotech institutes in the country in the future and has been focusing on imparting quality education in the area of biotechnology.

The faculty of the school has vast experience in formulating and handling biotechnology related national and international projects, under the able guidance of Prof. PK Khosla, former vice-chancellor, HPAU, Palampur and ex-advisor, Biotechnology, Government of Himachal Pradesh. The curriculum has been designed in consultation with stakeholders so that it meets the requirements of academia, industry and society. Linkages with the industries for creating an employability bridge have been formed for the internship and training of students. The focal areas include industry relevant skills as plant tissue culture, biotransformation, fermentation, DNA and RNA isolation, industrial microbes screening and production, biochemical analysis and standardization of analytical instruments.

The state-of-the-art laboratories at the school are well equipped to handle advanced research. The school is in the process of creating a database library on medicinal and aromatic plants with information on biology (ethnobiology) systematics, agronomic practices, molecular characterization (DNA finger printing), recombinant DNA drugs, antibiotics, isolation of bio-molecules gene mining for GMCs, phytochemistry of products, and pharmacological testing on animals.

The infrastructure and facilities are complimented by international academic alliances as with Seoul National University, South Korea, National Hampshire University, USA and Chung Yuan Christian University, Taiwan for transfer of credits and student exchange programs. This is expected to ensure exposure to latest developments and technologies. A number of projects of the school have received funding to the tune of Rs 4.4 crore from the industry and Rs 4.1 crore from government agencies respectively.

The school has been providing the industry exposure to the students from time to time. The companies such as Dabur International, Genpact, Johnson and Johnson, Krishi Dhan, Meridian Pharmaceuticals, Nectar Life Sciences, Panacea Biotec, Ranbaxy, Syngenta, Torrent Pharmaceutical, and many others have visited the campus to recruit the students. In the year 2012-13, about 139 pass outs from various post-graduate courses have found placements in the industry.